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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/788,391	02/21/2001	Hiroyasu Fujiwara	826.1680/JDH	5413
21171	7590	11/18/2005	EXAMINER LY, ANH	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			ART UNIT 2162	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 11/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/788,391

Applicant(s)

FUJIWARA, HIROYASU

Examiner

Anh Ly

Art Unit

2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 August 2005.  
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) 1 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-9 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 February 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is response to Applicant's AMENDMEND filed on 08/22/2005.
2. Claim 1 has been cancelled.
3. Claim 9 has been added.
4. Claims 2-9 are pending in this application.

### *Claim Objections*

5. Claim 2 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In the lines of 8-9 of claim 2, "storage unit, and" should rewrite it as "**storage unit;**" and also in the line 14, "lower hierarchical level, and" should rewrite it as "**lower hierarchical level; and**". Appropriate corrections are required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 2-9 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No.: 5,642,521 issued to Kiuchi et al. (hereinafter Kiuchi) in view of Patent No.: US 6,437,812 B1 issued to Giles et al. (hereinafter Giles).

With respect to claim 2, Kiuchi teaches a totalization system for totalizing information to be totalized (fig. 1, items 12, 13 and 7: totalizing the information to be totalized in the structure file: col. 5, lines 20-25); comprising:

a to-be-totalized information storage unit storing detail data as information to be totalized (totalization file unit (item 13 in fig. 1) storing detail data record by record to-be-totalized information: fig. 1 and col. 5, lines 42-54);

a hierarchical information storage unit storing plural user specified totalization hierarchy structures having information used in totalizing the information to be totalized (structure file unit , item 7 in fig. 1, is storing hierarchical information to be totalized: fig. 1 and col. 5, lines 20-25 and 42-50);

a computing unit allowing a user to select one of the structures and totalizing the detail data as information stored in the to-be-totalized information storage unit according to the one of the structures having hierarchical information stored in the hierarchical information storage unit (fig. 13, the process of computing and totalizing the selected detail data: col. 11, lines 55-67 and col. 12, lines 1-65);

a display control unit controlling display of the one of the structures selected by the user and totalization results for information at an arbitrary hierarchical level in the hierarchical information for the one of the structures selected by the user (display unit to

display the results of totalization information of the selected structure in the table format: col. 4, lines 1-15, fig. 1, item 3); and

wherein said totalization information can be displayed very readily in a form each individual user demands independently of data contents and regardless of a presence or absence of classification information for totalization (the totalizing information is displayed via display unit as shown in fig. 1, item 3; also see figs, 3, and 5A-5C).

Kiuchi teaches storing the to-be-totalized data, totalized data is stored in a hierarchical structure corresponding to the totalizing level and the totalization information in the hierarchical structure to be displayed to user, who can easily to select to level or desired information to be display according to totalizing level, via a display unit (see fig. 1). Kiuchi does not clearly teach on a same display screen and, if necessary, information at a hierarchical level lower than the arbitrary level or totalization results for information at the lower hierarchical level.

However, Giles teaches using GUI to display the hierarchical level information and the totalized result on the same display screen (figs, 3, 4, 5, & 6; col. 3, lines 12-52, col. 7, lines 32-67 and col. 8, lines 1-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Kiuchi with the teachings of Giles. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of displaying the hierarchical level information and the totalization results on the same display screen as disclosed (Giles's figs 5 & 6, col. 7, lines 32-67 and col. 8, lines 1-67), into the system of Kiuchi for the purpose of displaying a given level in the

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hierarchy all information located two or more levels below in a single display screen, thereby, reducing the user actions or selection and user to learn more efficient (Giles's col. 3, lines 12-22).

With respect to claim 3, Kiuchi teaches wherein the display control unit controls display of information at an even lower hierarchical level or totalization results for information at the even lower hierarchical level (fig. 1, item 3, display unit and totalization results: abstract, col. 5, lines 35-58, col. 7, lines 35-50 and col. 8, lines 28-50).

With respect to claim 4, Kiuchi teaches wherein the to-be-totalized information are classified into a plurality of groups, the hierarchical information storage unit stores hierarchical information about the plurality of groups, and the computing unit totalizes information stored in the to-be-totalized information storage unit on the basis of hierarchical information about any one of the groups (classification based on the group or product with the ID code: see figs 12, 15-19).

With respect to claim 5, Kiuchi teaches storing detail data as information to be totalized (totalization file storing information to be totalized: see fig. 1, items 11 and 12, col. 4, lines 55-67);

Storing plural user specified totalization hierarchy structures having hierarchical information used in totalizing the information to be totalized (structure file storing totalization hierarchy structure corresponding to totalizing levels (fig. 1, items 5 & 6, col. 4, lines 22-35);

allowing a user to select one of the structures and totalizing the detail data as information to be totalized on the basis the one of the structures having hierarchical information (abstract, col. 1, lines 60-67 and col. 2, lines 1-16 and col. 3, lines 45-55); and

wherein said totalizing information can be displayed very readily in a form each individual user demands independently of data contents and regardless of a presence or absence of classification information for totalization (the totalizing information is displayed via display unit as shown in fig. 1, item 3; also see figs, 3, and 5A-5C).

Kiuchi teaches storing the to-be-totalized data, totalized data is stored in a hierarchical structure corresponding to the totalizing level and the totalization information in the hierarchical structure to be displayed to user, who can easily to select to level or desired information to be display according to totalizing level, via a display unit (see fig. 1). Kiuchi does not clearly teach displaying the selected one of the structures and a totalized result on a same display screen.

However, Giles teaches using GUI to display the hierarchical level information and the totalized result on the same display screen (figs, 3, 4, 5, & 6; col. 3, lines 12-52, col. 7, lines 32-67 and col. 8, lines 1-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Kiuchi with the teachings of Giles. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of displaying the hierarchical level information and the totalization results on the same display screen as disclosed (Giles's figs 5 & 6, col. 7, lines 32-67 and col. 8, lines

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1-67), into the system of Kiuchi for the purpose of displaying a given level in the hierarchy all information located two or more levels below in a single display screen, thereby, reducing the user actions or selection and user to learn more efficient (Giles's col. 3, lines 12-22).

With respect to claim 6, Kiuchi teaches information storage storing information to be totalized (totalization file storing information to be totalized: see fig. 1, items 11 and 12, col. 4, lines 55-67);

totalization hierarchical information storage storing hierarchical information defining a totalization hierarchy allowing totalizing of the information to be totalized even when classification information is unavailable for user in totalizing the information to be totalized (fig. 1, items 5 & 6, col. 4, lines 22-35, and classification based on the group or product with the ID code: see figs 12, 15-19); and

a computing unit totalizing the information stored in the information storage according to the hierarchical information stored in the hierarchical information storage (abstract, col. 1, lines 60-67 and col. 2, lines 1-16 and col. 3, lines 45-55; also the totalizing information is displayed via display unit as shown in fig. 1, item 3; also see figs, 3, and 5A-5C).

Kiuchi teaches storing the to-be-totalized data, totalized data is stored in a hierarchical structure corresponding to the totalizing level and the totalization information in the hierarchical structure to be displayed to user, who can easily to select to level or desired information to be display according to totalizing level, via a display



unit (see fig. 1). Kiuchi does not clearly teach a display displaying the selected one of the structures and a totalized result on a same display screen.

However, Giles teaches using GUI to display the hierarchical level information and the totalized result on the same display screen (figs. 3, 4, 5, & 6; col. 3, lines 12-52, col. 7, lines 32-67 and col. 8, lines 1-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Kiuchi with the teachings of Giles. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of displaying the hierarchical level information and the totalized results on the same display screen as disclosed (Giles's figs 5 & 6, col. 7, lines 32-67 and col. 8, lines 1-67), into the system of Kiuchi for the purpose of displaying a given level in the hierarchy all information located two or more levels below in a single display screen, thereby, reducing the user actions or selection and user to learn more efficient (Giles's col. 3, lines 12-22).

With respect to claim 7, Kiuchi teaches storing data to be totaled (totalization file storing information to be totalized: see fig. 1, items 11 and 12, col. 4, lines 55-67); and

totaling the data responsive to the hierarchy selected (abstract, col. 5, lines 35-58, col. 7, lines 35-50 and col. 8, lines 28-50).

Kiuchi teaches storing the to-be-totalized data, totalized data is stored in a hierarchical structure corresponding to the totalizing level and the totalization information in the hierarchical structure to be displayed to user, who can easily to select to level or desired information to be display according to totalizing level, via a display

unit (see fig. 1). Kiuchi does not clearly teach creating at least plural hierarchies linking the data according to plural users hierarchy specifications associated with the plural users data requirements; allowing a user to select one of the hierarchies and displaying the selected one of the structures and a totalized result on a same display screen.

However, Giles teaches using GUI to display the hierarchy and the totalized result on the same display screen and selections (figs, 3, 4, 5, & 6; col. 3, lines 12-52, col. 7, lines 32-67 and col. 8, lines 1-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Kiuchi with the teachings of Giles. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of displaying the hierarchical level information and the totalized results on the same display screen as disclosed (Giles's figs 5 & 6, col. 7, lines 32-67 and col. 8, lines 1-67), into the system of Kiuchi for the purpose of displaying a given level in the hierarchy all information located tow or more levels below in a single display screen, thereby, reducing the user actions or selection and user to learn more efficient (Giles's col. 3, lines 12-22).

With respect to claim 8, Kiuchi teaches wherein the hierarchy has levels and the user is allowed to select a level within the hierarchy and the total for that level in the hierarchy is produced (a user can easily totalize data of hierarchical structure according to a totalizing level: col. 2, lines 5-18).

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With respect to claim 9, Kiuchi teaches a computer based totalization method (fig. 1, items 12, 13 and 7: totalizing the information to be totalized in the structure file: col. 5, lines 20-25), comprising:

storing data to be totaled (totalization file storing information to be totalized: see fig. 1, items 11 and 12, col. 4, lines 55-67); and

totaling the data responsive to the portion of the hierarchy selected (abstract, col. 5, lines 35-58, col. 7, lines 35-50 and col. 8, lines 28-50).

Kiuchi teaches storing the to-be-totalized data, totalized data is stored in a hierarchical structure corresponding to the totalizing level and the totalization information in the hierarchical structure to be displayed to user, who can easily to select to level or desired information to be display according to totalizing level, via a display unit (see fig. 1). Kiuchi does not clearly teach creating a hierarchy linking the data; allowing a user to select a portion of the hierarchy using a graphical user interface; and displaying the portion of the hierarchy and a totalization result together on the graphical user interface..

However, Giles teaches using GUI to display the hierarchy and the totalized result on the same display screen and selections (figs, 3, 4, 5, & 6; col. 3, lines 12-52, col. 7, lines 32-67 and col. 8, lines 1-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Kiuchi with the teachings of Giles. One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it motivated to utilize the use of displaying the hierarchical level information and the totalized results on the same

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display screen as disclosed (Giles's figs 5 & 6, col. 7, lines 32-67 and col. 8, lines 1-67), into the system of Kiuchi for the purpose of displaying a given level in the hierarchy all information located two or more levels below in a single display screen, thereby, reducing the user actions or selection and user to learn more efficient (Giles's col. 3, lines 12-22).

### ***Conclusion***

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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### Contact Information

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh Ly whose telephone number is (571) 272-4039 or via E-Mail: **ANH.LY@USPTO.GOV** or fax to **(571) 273-4039**. The examiner can normally be reached on TUESDAY – THURSDAY from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene, can be reached on (571) 272-4107 or **Primary Examiner Jean Corrielus (571) 272-4032**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see **<http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>**. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, or faxed to: **Central Fax Center (571) 273-8300**

ANH LY   
NOV. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005

  
JEAN M. CORRIELUS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER